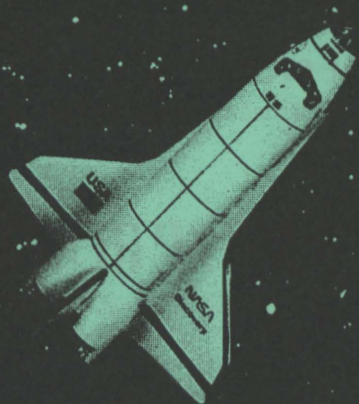
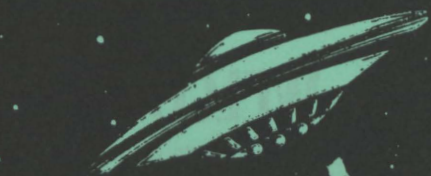


THE  
AUSTRALIAN

# U.F.O.

BULLETIN





# V.U.F.O.R.S. OFFICE BEARERS

PRESIDENT  
**JUDITH MAGEE**

VICE-PRESIDENT  
**PAUL NORMAN**

SECRETARY  
**TED SKEWES**

TREASURER  
**CLIVE YATES**

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY  
**GARY WING**

MINUTES SECRETARY  
**TONY COOK**

SIGHTING INVESTIGATIONS OFFICER  
**PAUL NORMAN**

PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER  
**GEORGE SIMPSON**

EDITORIAL STAFF  
**JUDITH MAGEE**  
**PAUL NORMAN**  
**TONY COOK**

OFFICERS  
**PHIL MYERS**  
**JOAN PRICE**



## WELCOME

The Society welcomes reports of unusual phenomena. These are evaluated on their own merits and if requested are kept in the strictest confidence.

The Society exchanges information with similar Australian and overseas organisations, as well as scientists, and disseminates to the public information on local, interstate and overseas developments in its quarterly publication, the "Australian U.F.O. Bulletin", which is posted to all members.

All communications should be addressed per the return address shown on the rear of this bulletin.

## © COPYRIGHT

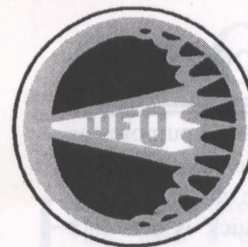
No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written consent of V.U.F.O.R.S.

## ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Contributions published do not necessarily reflect the policy of the V.U.F.O.R.S.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

For details of your membership renewal, refer to the month/year coding on the address label of your latest bulletin. This indicates the last bulletin for which you are financial - we would appreciate your renewal by the date shown.



# Victorian U.F.O. Research Society

P.O. Box 43, Moorabbin, Vic. 3189, Australia  
INCORPORATED 1988

Comments are welcome, address email to [vufors@ozemail.com.au](mailto:vufors@ozemail.com.au)

Print Post Approved  
PP338968/0023

# SEPTEMBER 1996

## Contents

PAGE	ARTICLE
2	Editorial
3	On The UFO Trail
5	The Steve Michalak Story
6	RAIP Bulletin
11	Cases from UFO AFRINEWS
16-17	Press Cuttings of Interest
20	The Early Years
21	UFO Pot Pourri
22	How Far is.... FAR OUT?
23	Richard Hall's Reality Check
24	UFO Filmed while flying past space shuttle
25	Sighting Reports
	Samaria UFO Report
28	Wonnangatta Sighting
29	Local Reports
30	Tasmanian Report
31	Society News



### SCOUTS REAP THE BLAME

For the Stupidity of the Media.

For some time now, we have been plagued with "*lights in the sky*". About four years ago, we observed three Plastic shopping bags tied together, drifting quite rapidly and fairly high from north to south with a strong breeze. More recently these lights have become more sophisticated. According to one media report, an inverted pyramid shape was found in a field near Healesville. It consisted of a simple garbage bag balloon with a small electric torch hanging from it and more recently a Police Officer said the Fire Brigade found a burnt garbage bag near a fire they were called to.

Admittedly some of these juvenile attempts would not cause much interest unless starting a fire or such, but we now have something which can become more nuisance value than any of those of the past. I believe directions for making these 'things' have been on the Internet even prior to the school holidays which of course would have been a good time to put these instructions to the test.

After comments attributed to me but invented by the media, I decided to do a little investigation to learn just what could be done with the cyalume sticks which the person on duty at the Planetarium mentioned to one of the witnesses who 'phoned me.

These cyalume sticks are about 16 cms long - some come with black cover/stand - and come in four colours; all appear iridescent, red, blue, yellow/green and a very bright white light.

These 'sticks' are used for marine purposes as they are not a flame and can be used by divers. There is a small tube of some chemical inside a larger tube and when the 'stick' is bent (not broken), the chemicals combine to give off a very bright glow for about twelve hours. Very good idea to carry one in your- car in case of breakdown!

I told the media these can be procured from any scouting or yachting stores, so the media took it up and headed an article: "*Scouts blamed for Mystery Lights in the Sky*".

We have had at least three occasions recently where the media has misrepresented information we have given them in favour of something less realistic. I also stated that UFO research is very like panning for gold. In the dish you pick up a lot of dirt and rubbish. but after the wash there is always the hope that something worthwhile will remain. I believe about 90 percent of the recent reports have been just D.L's, (damn lights) since there's nothing to investigate after they've gone, that leaves 10 percent of which 5 percent would be mistaken identities, the other 5 percent we are interested in.

We do not qualify a report until it has been investigated and we are always pleased to hear from people who have seen an object perform manoeuvres which our conventional machines or objects cannot achieve. Not everything that flies through the air is a 'spaceship', but there are definitely some objects out there in which we would be most interested.

# ON THE UFO TRAIL

Paul Norman ©

For the past three months, the UFO Trail has been a trail of deception. with pranksters causing researcher telephone lines to become overloaded. This does not mean that most of the people who phone about lights in the sky are the individuals who are shooting the devices up and across the sky, although some of the callers would be the ones wishing to enhance the effect of their agenda. Nevertheless, we record all written reports sent to us.

The peak was reached while the shuttle was in flight and more people than usual were watching the skies.

I travelled much of Victoria checking out some of these reports and found in a few cases that no one by that name was at the given location. Some other reports turned out to be stars, flashing due to atmospheric conditions, satellites, aircraft at a distance when too far away to hear the sound. Temperature inversions, helium-filled balloons etc. A few of the reports were worth a follow-up such as photos and/or videos. Two reports came from observers who had not developed their films.

One newspaper was not very helpful, especially the newspaper with journalistic licence, exercising their 'expertise' in misquotations and out of context reporting.

While I was in the Western District. endeavouring to identify lights and objects, a journalist 'phoned and I mentioned a colleague of his had interviewed me a year or so previously and as I was trying to recall his name the newsman suggested his name and I replied "yes, that is the one". When his article

was published, my statement was applied to another newspaper story about a video of which I was unaware at the time and connected the statement to two other persons I had never met and/or did not know! It became amusing when he ended the article by stating he called in an outside perspective.

The only trouble makers we have had were interrupters who have had a rendezvous with so-called outside sources from the political wing of UFOlogy: in attempts to cause a scene at Meetings and elsewhere, to spread false statements or disrupt our activity of serious investigation.

When we identify a sighting, we are not ridiculing the report and we find that most observers are not offended, they desire an honest opinion or merely want to know if others have reported the same lights and/or objects.

Out of hundreds of reports, how many were being investigated; I and two more investigators from Melbourne and several of our investigators in country areas along with a few individuals not associated with VUFORS are all that I am aware of, who were taking the trouble to directly contact the witnesses which takes much time.

We learned years ago that very seldom does a completely accurate article appear in some news-papers. Many books are written when the articles researched are based on press items which in most cases are speculative or contradictory. I know one author who claims to have investigated hundreds of reports believing that when he has read a newspaper-clipping he has investigated it.



The only value we place on news reports is that maybe something is going on. To find out just what it is, we check it out for ourselves.

I remarked to a Policeman a few days ago, that many journalists write about everything and are experts on nothing, except misquotations and out of context reporting; not only concerning our field but others as well. His reply was "You can say that again".

It is amazing that a large percentage of readers swallow media statements hook line and sinker.

As this is being written the recent flap is still being investigated. Just because some reports remain unexplained does not necessarily mean they are out of this world. Technology has increased somewhat in the past decade or so. A few years ago, I spent two days at a residence near an area just following a period of UFO activity, and where contractors were carrying out experiments and tests for the Government, which involved flying objects under remote electronic or other control. The

operation caused a flurry of UFO reports in the nearby newspapers. The weekend amusement among the contractors was reading the newspaper reports of UFO's. These reports coincided with the operations the contractors were performing at that time. This does not suggest that the Military is operating in the area of Victoria.

It only suggests that the same type of technology can fall into the hands of others by means of the Internet where there appears to be no censorship.

Some time back. I observed three men operating toy sail boats by remote control. Racing the boats as well as manoeuvring them in formation. A few years ago, while attending the Exhibition in Vancouver, Canada. a "flying saucer" which was on display was being operated by remote control.

For this reason. I cannot conclude that the majority of objects reported during the past several months in Victoria as well as other states, are anything other than man made.

## E.T. HIGHWAY

On April 18, 1996, the American state of Nevada State Route 371, was renamed the "EXTRATERRESTRIAL HIGHWAY". Rachel and this highway are very close to the very large Nellis Gunnery Range known as Area 51.

The Little A'Le'Inn is the only motel/Restaurant in the area and people you meet there say they are entertained some nights by strange lights and sonic booms.

Space aliens? A more likely cause is a military base so secret, the Government cryptically acknowledges its existence only as an 'operating location'. Locals refer to the installation as "Dreamland" or "Area 51".

## The UFO Enigma



Classic UFO Cases —

## The Steve Michalak Story: Documented Account of Man Burned by a UFO

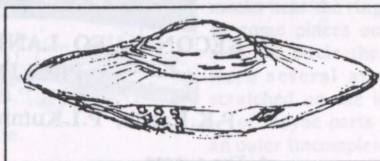
By Brent Raynes

It happened on May 20, 1967, at about 12:13 p.m. Steve Michalak, then 50, an industrial mechanic of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, was prospecting for minerals near Falcon Lake which is about 85 miles east of Winnipeg, when he had, he claimed, a most unusual experience. He observed two glowing red elliptical-shaped objects flying in at low altitude from out of the south-southwest. One of the objects came to land in a clearing. The other object hovered nearby for a few seconds and then flew off, disappearing in the direction from which it had arrived.

In fascination, Michalak didn't move from his location for nearly a half hour. He carefully observed details of the object, making a sketch of it. Upon landing, the red glow had become extinguished and Michalak now was looking at an object with a "stainless steel" appearance, resembling two saucers placed together lip-to-lip, with a raised "dome" looking protrusion on the top. It was, he estimated, 35-40 feet in diameter and about 10-12 feet high. The object was making a "whistling" noise with a "suction" quality to it, suggesting to Michalak that the object was circulating air into itself and then back out.

After half an hour, a door slid open on the lower portion of the UFO. From the door there emitted a brilliant violet light. Michalak used a welder's visor to protect his eyes. He then noticed, inside the door, blinking red, white, and blue lights. Then, thinking that he had heard voices, he began trying to call out to them. He called out in the five different languages with which he was familiar and got no response.

He approached and stuck his head into an open door.



Michalak's drawing of the UFO he made for Brent Raynes in 1968.

He saw flashing lights everywhere on the interior. He reached out his hand and touched the object's exterior. The rubber fingertips of his glove melted off his hand.

Next, the door quickly slid shut and the object began to spin in a counter-clockwise fashion. Suddenly it took off at a high rate of speed toward the southeast causing a considerable blast of heat that burned Michalak's clothing and set fire to the ground.

His chest hurting from being burned, and also feeling light headed and nauseous, Michalak drove into Falcon Lake and reported his encounter to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He then drove to the Misericordia Hospital in Winnipeg, but when the doctors asked him about his chest injury, he told them that he had been burned by an airplane's exhaust.

By the next day, Michalak was very sick. He vomited frequently, suffering nausea and diarrhea, and for four days wasn't able to keep food on his stomach. He became confined to bed for a week, lost 22 pounds, and a blood test revealed that his lymphocyte count was significantly below normal. His facial burns resembled

a severe sunburn while the burns on his chest had a peculiar "checkerboard" arrangement of tiny dots (as did his shirt). Five months later, he again complained of dizziness, burning sensations, and also swelling in his hands and chest, as well as the appearance of several large red spots on his chest.

Prior to his experience, Michalak was a non-believer in flying saucers, and afterward he still felt that what he observed were simply a couple of secret experimental vehicles of the U.S. Air Force.

What do you think?

## UFO CASE FILE — 1967 Michalak Close Encounter



**What, Where, & When:** On May 20, 1967, a 51-year old mechanic from Winnipeg, Canada, Steven Michalak, received first- and second degree burns after a close encounter with a landed UFO near Falcon Lake. Michalak first saw two, oval-shaped, red colored UFOs in the sky. One of the objects landed while the other sped away. After watching the landed object for 30 minutes, the observer approached it and peered inside an opened door seeing flashing lights. Thinking he heard voices inside he called out in several different languages, but received no reply. He then touched the outside of the object with a gloved hand. The rubber glove melted off his hand. Suddenly the door closed and the object took off creating a blast of heat. Michalak's clothing caught fire causing severe burns. For weeks following the incident, Michalak was ill with nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and suffered a 22-pound weight loss. Other strange illnesses plagued him for months after he encountered.

**Probable Causes:** UFO Encounter, Plasma, Possible Hoax.

**Final Outcome:** Unknown.



# RIAP BULLETIN

Volume 2, Number 4

October—December 1995

"The article is reprinted here with the permission of Dr. V.V. Rubtsov, Editor of RIAP Bulletin. This article is copyrighted (c) by the Research Institute on Anomalous Phenomena, 1995. All Rights Reserved. Any unauthorized reprinting of the article is strictly prohibited."

## A SECOND UFO LANDING ON THE RIVER MZHA: A PRELIMINARY REPORT

P.K. Kozub, P.I. Kutniuk, V.S. Mantulin, V.V. Rubtsov

### 1. The events

Some six years ago, on January 7, 1990, about 8:40 a.m., Mr. A.E. Vorontsov, a resident of the little town of Merefa (located about 30 kilometers SSW of Kharkov) saw over the frozen river Mzha a UFO. It was a big top-shaped object with the diameter of its base approximately 25 meters, and the height, including its spire, about 5-6 meters. The object was situated on the ice or slightly above it in a small bay. The spire and the base of the object were greyish-blue, and its body —orange- or rose-colored. The base was pulsating "as if some balls were rolling around there".

The witness observed the object in astonishment, as he believes, about 10 minutes. Then the UFO suddenly took off vertically, to an altitude of some 30 meters, hovered for several seconds and then flew eastward. A big round piece of ice on the landing site sank into the water, then it rose again back to the surface.

A distinct ring (or rather a system of rings) with an inner diameter of 20.7 m and one meter wide, has remained on the ice. The rings were very regular and clearly outlined, as if made by a giant milling machine cutter. The trace remained visible for a few weeks after the date of the event, but when the ice melted it obviously vanished.

It is worthy to note that on January 7 the ice was

still rather thin due to a comparatively warm winter, and it was not until January 13 that it became thick enough to safely bear the weight of a man walking on ice. Thus, the traces could hardly have been hoaxed. The depth of water under the circle is about eight meters.

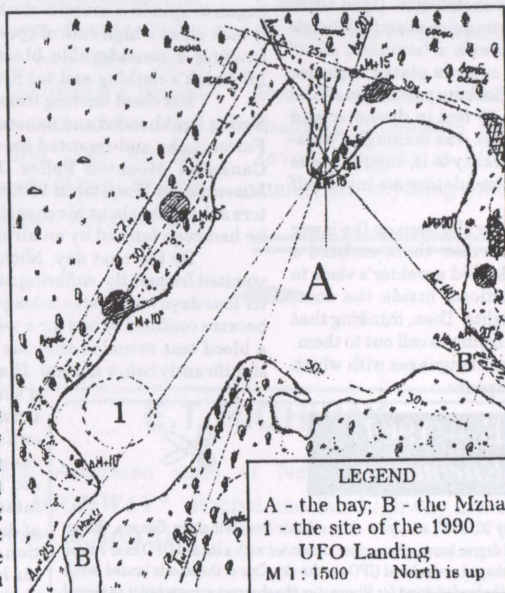


Fig. 1. Map of the location

some 3 km from the site), on the night of December 4-5 he observed from a window of his house (when smoking, as he was accustomed to do) a "big round object" flying at a not-so-high altitude "towards the local poultry-farm". The object had bright lights along its perimeter, reminiscent of incandescent lamps. It moved swiftly and noiselessly at the distance of no more than 500 m from

The site was mapped (Fig. 1), photographed (Figs. 2-4), and samples of the ice were taken. They were analyzed in a chemical institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences (with the help of the academic Expert Group on Anomalous Atmospheric Phenomena). No peculiarities were, however, found, except that in one sample there proved to be a slightly increased concentration of platinum ( $2.5 \times 10^{-7}$  grammes per liter, versus some  $0.5 \times 10^{-7}$  in other samples).

On December 1995, a second UFO landing has occurred practically at the same place. As was reported by Mr. P. Mandych, an inhabitant of the Kravtsovo village (located

P. Mandych's house (by the witness's estimation). The trajectory of the object, as P. Mandych quickly realized, was directed to the place of the 1990 UFO landing. (That event had been broadly publicized and almost every inhabitant of Kravtsovo had visited the site.)

So, on the morning of December 5, 1995, P. Mandych, with his wife and some other villagers, went to the small bay of the Mzha river. When they came there, they saw that there was no UFO, but a circle of ice some 26 m in diameter (by the witnesses' estimation) was cut from the surrounding ice. It slowly rotated under the action of the river current. The circle was situated almost where the 1990 rings had been. The ice inside the ring (the center included) was absolutely undamaged (just as in 1990). On either side of the circle's edge one could see a few narrow concentric rings scratched on the surface of ice.

The ice was very thin (less than one centimeter thick) and covered with a film of hoarfrost. At a distance of about 5 m from the bank, near the edge of the circle, there were seen on the hoarfrost "a few small footprints, like children's ones", that led nowhere. The witnesses believe, however, that the ice could not have supported even a dog.

When the site was visited by a few RIAP specialists on December 9, 1995, the ice has already thickened up to some 10 cm and the circle had been frozen into the surrounding ice. The rings were, however, clearly visible, although less developed and narrower than the 1990 ones had been (Figs. 5-7). The inner diameter of the circle proved to be 22 meters (the witnesses' estimation of 26 m can be easily explained by the faulty eye), and the width of the rings 60 cm. The site was photographed and some samples were taken again. At this writing the latter have not been analyzed as yet.



Fig. 2. The 1990 circle.

pression that the object hovered low over the ice surface, sometimes leaning and touching ice here and there.

The exact location of the supposed landing trace was not determined during the first expedition to the site. By eye, however, the 1995 circle is situated almost at the same place as the preceding one, maybe somewhat nearer to the bank.

The locality has no enterprises around (except for the poultry-farm) and remains one of few ecologically safe places in the Kharkov Region. When visiting the site in summer, we were much impressed by the Mzha's clear water and wonderful vegetation. A common joke then became: "Probably some extraterrestrial smugglers transport from here the most precious substance in the Galaxy — pure water!"



Fig. 3. Part of the 1990 circle.

### 2. Preliminary conclusions

The first (1990) UFO landing on the Mzha was interesting indeed even in itself. It was discussed in detail at a summer 1990 meeting of the Expert Group on Anomalous Atmospheric Phenomena of the then USSR Academy of Sciences. The common opinion arose that it could not be explained by ordinary causes, and therefore the "Mzha UFO" was a UFO in the strict sense of the word. (This term does not designate, of course, an alien probe; it means just what it means: an unidentified flying object.)





Fig. 5. Part of the 1995 circle.

The fact that a second UFO landing has occurred at the same place six years after the initial one has made the event(s) even more interesting. Recurrent (if not reproducible) events are of much potential importance to ufology. In fact, only such events may constitute its solid empirical basis. The time interval of almost six years is not highly encouraging, but it is better than nothing.

(There is in fact no proof there had been no other landings during the five winters between January 1990 and December 1995: the site is not frequently visited in the winter, to say the least. If the 1995 UFO had turned off its lights when flying, nobody would probably have decided to go there

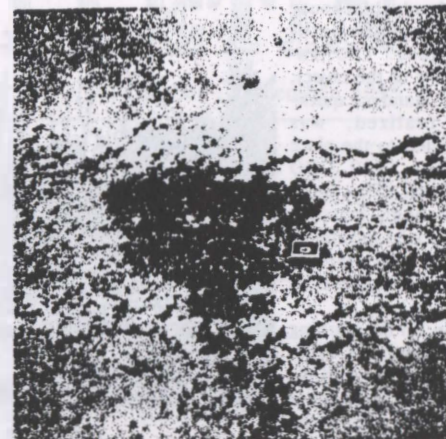


Fig. 6. Detail of the 1995 circle.

to look for its traces. A night landing in the little bay of the Mzha river in the summer would not have been necessarily observed either. But this is just a supposition, of course.)

It is certainly somewhat risky to draw significant conclusions from such a limited material — only two events separated in time by almost six years. Via two points one can draw only one straight line, but an infinite number of curves. Nobody can guarantee we must connect the 1990 and 1995 events with a "straight line", and not with a "curve". On the other hand, one point (a usual situation in ufology) is in this sense even less restrictive. Therefore, attempts to infer something essential from the Mzha phe-



Fig. 4. Detail of the 1990 circle.

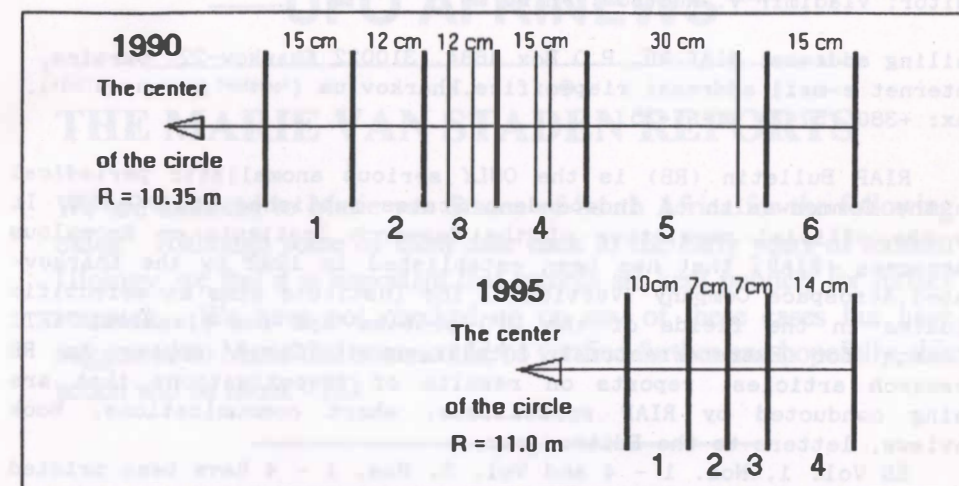


Fig. 7. Structure of the rings.

nomena are not so much blameworthy.

What data have we got to base on them our inferences? First, these are *facts of reality* — the traces on the ice. The 1990 and 1995 traces are closely similar, but not identical. The second ring was somewhat larger (the inner diameter 22 m versus 20.7 m) and narrower (0.6 m versus 1.0 m). Both the circles have appeared at the same place (with an accuracy of a few meters) on a very thin ice that had just covered water of the Mzha (although in 1990 it happened in the beginning of January, and in 1995 in the beginning of December).

Second, we have got *reports of the eye-witnesses* who observed UFOs. In 1990 an object hovered over the landing (or near-landing) site; in 1995, another one was seen flying in the direction of the site. Although in the latter case there was no direct observation of a UFO at the site (at least, we do not know of any), the parallel is obvious.

There are two main possible interpretations of these facts and reports:

1) The UFO observations both in 1990 and 1995 have been just made up by the "eye-witnesses" (or greatly exaggerated). The rings have resulted from some peculiarity of the river current (or the place as a whole) that we cannot recognize as yet. This version seems to be rather flimsy: when questioning the witnesses, we did not find any reason to doubt their sincerity. It has, however, at least one merit: it can be tested in the course of regular observations of the site. If not proved, this supposition will have to be rejected, but at present it must remain in view.

2) The reports of the witnesses are accurate enough and the circles were due to genuine unidentified flying objects that came there from somewhere. To test this hypothesis will not be that easy,

even if it appears more sound than the first one. Strictly speaking, there is only one way to prove it: a third UFO landing at the site has to be recorded instrumentally.

### 3. Future trends

What can and must be made to solve the problem? First of all, it is important to investigate the chemical and isotopic contents of the samples collected. It is also essential to look for any possible parallels to these cases (in respect of the traces' form, dimensions, and structure) in computer UFO and crop circles data bases. Unfortunately, the process of computerization of post-Soviet ufology has not been as yet completed (to say the least), and therefore we would be deeply grateful to any RB reader who could supply us with any information of this kind.

As regards further investigations at the site, they should be focused, in our opinion, on the possibility of a third UFO landing there (or at least a third formation of the circle). Of course, such a possibility may never materialize. But to miss this — even if remote — opportunity of a prearranged observation of a UFO landing would be inexcusable.

Ideally it would be necessary to constantly monitor the site with a set of automatic recording apparatus (video cameras, photo cameras, infra-red cameras, etc.) during the next, let's say, 10 years. Under the current circumstances this is certainly unrealistic. Seasonal presence of a few observers equipped with video- and photo cameras (especially while the river is freezing up) would be, probably, a reasonable compromise between what is needed and what is possible. Readers of the *RIAP Bulletin* will be kept informed about further development of this research work.



Editor: Vladimir V. Rubtsov, Ph.D.

Mailing address: RIAP/RB, P.O.Box 4684, 310022 Kharkov-22, Ukraine.  
Internet e-mail address: riap@office.kharkov.ua (for short communications only).  
Fax: +380 (57-2) 21-91-25.

RIAP Bulletin (RB) is the ONLY serious anomalistic periodical in the Commonwealth of Independent States published IN ENGLISH. It is the official newsletter of the Research Institute on Anomalous Phenomena (RIAP) that has been established in 1992 by the Kharkov-based Aerospace Company "Vertical". The Institute aims at scientific studies in the fields of the UFO problem and non-classical SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence). There appear in RB research articles, reports on results of investigations that are being conducted by RIAP specialists, short communications, book reviews, letters to the Editor, etc.

RB Vol. 1, Nos. 1 - 4 and Vol. 2, Nos. 1 - 4 have been printed and sent to subscribers. They contain, in particular, the papers *RIAP: Some Basic Data and Post-Soviet Ufology: a View from Inside* by V.V.Rubtsov; *UFOs as Objects of Study by Terrestrial Physics* by V.A.Buerakov; *Astrodynamical Aspect of Paleovisitology and Search for Alien Artifacts on the Moon* by A.V.Arkhilov; *UFOs: a Possible Mechanism of Formation, Behavior and Environmental Impact* by V.I.Mazhuga; *The Petrozavodsk Phenomenon*, by Dr. L.M.Gindilis & Yu.K.Kolpakov; *A Second UFO Landing on the River Mzha*, by a group of RIAP scientists. We have also published the first really comprehensive survey of anomalous features of the famous Tunguska explosion, written by the leading Russian specialist in this problem - Dr. Nikolay V. Vasilyev, Member of Academy.

There will appear in the next RB issues, in particular, the following papers: *The Black Ball: a Supposed Extraterrestrial Artifact*, by Dr. V.N.Fomenko; *New Data on Genetic Impact by the Tunguska "Meteorite"*, by N.V.Vasilyev; *UFOs: False and Genuine*, by the Russian academic UFO expert Dr. Yu.V.Platov, *Supposed UFO Landing in Zaporozhye, July 23, 1994*, by Yu.A.Novikov, and many others.

RIAP Bulletin is published four times per year. Subscription rates: a life-long subscription - \$100; 12 issues (three years) - \$50; 8 issues (two years) - \$35; 4 issues (one year) - \$20. Airmail postage included. Back issues are still available (\$5 per copy).

To subscribe to the RIAP Bulletin, please send a cheque, drawn on a US bank, or a US money order, or an international POSTAL money order to the following address:

Mr. Gary Burgansky, RIAP-US, 711-A Seagirt Ave., Suite 25-K, Far Rockaway, NY 11691, USA. The money should be made payable to:

Published Quarterly by Research Institute on Anomalous Phenomena  
P.O.Box 4684, 310022 Kharkov-22, UKRAINE  
Distributed Free Among RIAP Fellows and Donators  
© Copyright 1995 RIAP — All Rights Reserved

## THE MARIE VAN STADEN REPORTS

We are indebted to Marie van Staden of South Africa for the following cases. Although some of them date back to the early years of modern Ufology, we feel it is important that records are kept publicly for further research. We have not checked up on any of these cases but have suggested to Marie that some could be verified further and hopefully, this action will be taken. - ED.

### A Child Recalls.

Case № 97.

Report by Elmo C.

Dated 1945/6/7, Ladybrand, South Africa.

At the age of eight or nine, a mate and I were playing next to the road which was about 100 metres away from the house. Suddenly we realized something was coming our way. It was a very strange-looking thing; it came down slowly and soundlessly and did not even frighten us as there was no rumble. It hovered overhead, the height is hard to estimate as we were only kids, but I'd say maybe 30 metres.

It had, if I remember correctly, a dull silver body which looked like the front part of a helicopter; but it didn't have a tail, or rotor blades. We stopped and watched for quite a while. It just hung there, doing nothing, but we could see someone inside.

Like boys are, we tried to throw stones at them, but they were just a little too high for us to reach.

### UFO on Safari.

Case № 98

Report from JSE.

East Africa (Kenya), April 1956.

'I was on Safari with a couple of other people, when one night in camp we saw a very strange object come flying over, very low, with huge red and orange lights. The front was a dull silver colour. We were so surprised



because there was no sound at all, we just sat there staring at this as it disappeared into the far north.

We did contact the town people but apparently nobody else saw it or else they didn't want to be involved.'

---

### Visited by Air Force Officers.

Case N° 99 (a)

Report by Julie R. Pretoria, South Africa, 1957.

'I was standing on the balcony of the Hellenic Hotel where we were staying, when I saw something flash across the sky at a very high speed, from south to north, then just disappear in the distance into a cloud bank. I phoned the newspaper the next day to report what I had seen.

I then had a visit from two Air Force officers. After questioning me, they told me that what I had seen was a weather balloon. I then told them that I had worked for the Bureau when I left school and knew everything there was to know about these balloons. They then realized I was not the fool they took me for, but warned me not to talk about these things. I told them there was no law that could stop me from telling what I saw.

The next day, in the PRETORIA NEWS, there was an article about a similar object sighting in Toulouse, France, and in Germany.'

---

### Pulsating Blue Lights

Case N° 99 (b)

Report From Julie R. Margate, South Africa, April 1965.

'In April of 1965 I saw something very strange in Margate. I was visiting friends whose house was situated on the slope of a knoll, with another knoll on the far side.

About 20:00 hours that night we heard a tremendous noise; it sounded like a huge thunderstorm or a jet plane, everything actually shook. On going outside to investigate, we saw no clouds nor any aeroplane, although it was

not the route for planes. The sound lasted about 10 minutes and did not fade away like a plane would when flying by. Although it was very dark in that area, we would have at least seen something like navigation lights, etc. And it was definitely not the sea, as the sound came from the opposite direction. My friends did not live right by the sea, but a little inland. The sound just suddenly died down.

About 21:00 hours I decided I wanted to go back home. While outside, we saw something very strange half-way up the second knoll. There were four pairs of blue lights which pulsated (if you could call it that) and within those lights, when at their brightest, there was a silver substance which glittered in and around them.

Well, I decided not to go back, because anything could happen; and at about 23:00 hours the lights started going out one by one.

The next day we investigated but could see nothing out of place.'

---

### Soundless Craft

Case N° 100

Report by Jos R. Barkly East, South Africa, 1968.

[Mr R's story was told to me by Elmo. He wrote on behalf of Mr R. as they were friends and knew of each other's experiences. Mr R. also phoned me the day my letter appeared in DIE VOLKSBLAD. — Marie van Staden.]

Mr R. saw something in 1968 on the farm of his father, in the Barkly East district of the Cape Province. He said he saw this strange thing which looked like a sphere and emitted a light, coming towards him. He was totally bewildered, he did not know what it was, and this craft came slowly, softly gliding towards him, and he was absolutely shocked to see how big it was. It hovered in the sky, although it was very low, for about 15 minutes; and then slowly but surely it started coming closer and closer. He just stood there, paralysed. It stopped a few metres in front of him and hovered there for a couple of seconds, then slowly glided over him and



shot off into the sky. He could not believe that anything that size could move without a sound. If there was any sound, he definitely did not hear anything. Apparently the 'light beam' that came from this craft actually burned him and he has had skin problems ever since.

[Marie van Staden adds: 'Apparently the object was seen on the East London, Barkly East, Ficksburg, Harrismith track. There was an article in the VOLKSBLAD at the time.']

---

### A Strange Craft

Case N° 101

Report by IAF. Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) 1976.

'In the year 1976 I was a tobacco farmer. The people who worked for me each had a different piece of "land" to work every day, and as soon as they were finished they could go home. They got paid daily but not for the amount of time they spent at work. I tell you, they did work because the earlier they could get away the better for them; they never even stopped to chat.

But on this specific morning things were all wrong: they just didn't want to work, they stopped every five minutes to chat and argue. I then called them in to find out what was wrong.

The previous night, while they were busy preparing their food outside their huts at the compound, they saw a very strange craft, which they described to me. It looked like it was long in shape, with a blue light shining on the inside, and it had little windows on the side that faced them, and what they thought was a red light coming from the back. Some said it looked like a cigarette; some said it looked like a long steel pipe.

I must mention that the area we were in was Rhodesia and helicopters were flying past every day looking for [what was then known as] terrorists; and some single engine light planes also flew over the area at regular intervals. So these people knew what a helicopter or an aeroplane looked like.

But what they saw disturbed them badly. They never went to sleep and talked about it all day and the day after. I said to myself, they must have seen something strange, because they don't read books; they didn't have proper schooling and there was no Television! They couldn't have made up such a story, and for what reason would they? And how could they describe something so strange in such detail, which they knew nothing about?

I contacted the HARTLEY NEWS which did publish the story, but I never had any feedback on it!

---

### A Perfect Sphere.

Case N° 102

Report by John W. Northern Transvaal, South Africa, July 1976.

'It was in July 1976, just after sunset, that I saw a UFO in the sky. I was alone on my farm in the far Northern Transvaal and there was no other person around who could have seen it. I was standing in my doorway admiring the sunset, then looked away, momentarily. I looked back towards the western horizon where the sun had just set, and there it was: dead still and soundless.

That was the greatest shock I have ever had in my life! And I am a man who has travelled around the world; lived in the USA, Canada, Australia and England. To me there is nothing strange in the world, which can't be accounted for, except that sight. And how it behaved. The shock held me frozen!

How could it appear there from nowhere so abruptly, without a movement or sound? And remain stationary in the sky? It was a perfect sphere, a globe the size of a football, shining but emitting no light. It is hard to estimate the real size or what distance it was from me, as there are no parameters in the clear blue sky. It remained thus, dead still and soundless, for about seven minutes, like a great eye, staring at me, and I know there was life in it. The 'craft' was certainly under intelligent control. Was it about to attack? Or was it taking pictures of me?



# Evil aliens on the lawn? Be nice — and don't call the army

THE biggest movie opening in history has presented about 15 million American cinema-goers this week with an intriguing question.

If aliens appear over your city intent on destroying you and the rest of humanity, just who do you call for help?

In Independence Day, the blockbuster which has broken all records by earning \$US100 million (\$126m) at the box office within a week, the president of the United States and the US military eventually lead a worldwide defence effort.

But if unfriendly aliens really do arrive, don't waste your time calling the White House. Or the Pentagon. Or the Australian Defence Forces. Or even the United Nations.

Odds are, they would all refer you to your local police.

Fifty-eight years after Orson Welles

ings on to the local police and it would be recorded in their files."

Big help that would be!

What about the White House?

The best that its spokesman, Mr Mike McCurry, could offer was that he hoped the aliens attack "on one of those days when Whitewater or the FBI files have dominated the news".

The UN Office for Outer Space Affairs, in Vienna, says alien invasions are not its responsibility as "none of the 185 member States have addressed (that) within the deliberations of the UN General Assembly".

The Office for Outer Space Affairs cannot pass the buck, however, if aliens send radio signals to Earth. According to the Declaration of Principles Concerning Activities Following the Detection of Extraterrestrial Intelligence, if any radio astronomers pick up such signals they should contact that UN

Peter Wilson

Washington correspondent



put our planet on notice with his radio play War of the Worlds, nobody seems to have any plans for dealing with an alien invasion.

The defence and emergency services people who spend their time preparing for all sorts of minor disasters and conflicts have no contingency plans for the biggest rumble of all — an intergalactic punch-up.

In the words of one newspaper, USA Today: "Operation Kick-Some-Alien-Butt just doesn't exist."

There is no strategy, no global hot

office, rather than take it upon themselves to deal with the problem.

(Surveys show 48 per cent of Americans believe their Government has already had contact with aliens and is involved in a cover-up, but that's another issue.)

The director of space policy at the Federation of American Scientists, Mr John Pike, says a lot of thought has gone into responding to an alien signal.

"How do you interpret it? What is the protocol for contact? It is not terribly different from the problem anthropologists have in dealing with isolated cultures up in the hills," he says.

A friendly response would be wisest, he warns, as armed defence would be pointless.

At one point in Independence Day (which was made by a subsidiary of News Limited, the publisher of *The*

line, no Plan A or B. In Independence Day, the Americans fire a nuclear bomb at the newcomers, then rally their fellow earthlings for co-ordinated air attacks.

But the world's most powerful military actually moved out of the alien business in 1969 when the US Air Force closed down its official UFO response program, Project Blue Book.

A spokesman at the Pentagon says the present US military policy is that if anyone feels threatened by the activities of space aliens they should report it "to their local authorities — the sheriff, the police".

The Australian Defence Forces spokesman, Brigadier Adrian D'Hage, gave similar advice yesterday.

"If people become concerned about this they should certainly contact their local police station," he said. "The ADF would pass any such sight-

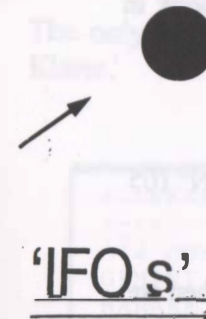
Australian, the US president orders his underlings: "Nuke 'em! Nuke the bastards!"

Mr Pike says a nuclear explosion near Earth would actually destroy our own satellites without worrying any aliens.

The most powerful US missiles could launch nuclear weapons more than 1600km into space but "it would be like using a dart gun against a battleship".

"A civilisation capable of building a starship would have capabilities beyond anything we could imagine. To get here they would have to travel at a significant fraction of the speed of light and be able to protect themselves from the rocks and debris they would run into in space," he said.

"By definition that means they could stop anything we could throw at them."



More evidence that the 'mysterious' lights result from prank activity came when a platform type silver object was found in a Healesville paddock.

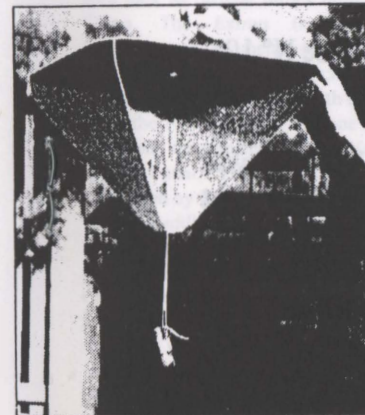
The object was fitted to a crude balloon, but it was obviously well made.

It was built with carefully cut polystyrene pieces, which fitted neatly to create a platform divided into four and, covered with kitchen foil.

A battery torch hung from underneath.

Unfortunately the activity is extremely dangerous and if it continues will almost certainly end in disaster for someone.

The colours and movements described by people witnessing the lights could easily be caused by small balloons with open flames, and particularly by a structure which reflects light, such as the one photographed by the Gazette.



This inverted pyramid type object was found in a field near Healesville. It was found with a simple garbage bag balloon. A small electric torch was hanging from the 'IFO'.



Ron and Veronica Howard relive Wednesday night's UFO encounter.

## BRIGHT LIGHTS IN THE SKY

# UFO sighting fulfills a wish

A quick glance at the sky on Wednesday evening has fulfilled a life-long wish of Cohuna resident, Mr Ron Morris, who believes he may finally have seen a UFO.

Mr Morris and his wife Veronica live at Chuggs road opposite the Cohuna airstrip and at first thought the brilliant light which illuminated the sky was an aircraft preparing to land.

"It looked like an aircraft ready to land with its lights on," Mr Howard said. "It was in the right direction to be landing on the airstrip but it didn't move."

Mr Howard said he first spotted the light somewhere south of Cohuna between 6.00 and 6.05 pm as he was walking toward his house.

The horizon was still red with the last of the sun slipping out of view.

"I saw this light and I said to Veronica, 'I think there's an aircraft coming in to land.'"

On closer inspection with the binoculars, however, Mr Howard noticed that the light was not moving.

He said it remained hovering somewhere in the distance for

three to four minutes, then another one appeared.

Mrs Howard, who had joined her husband by this time, said the lights, one of which was brighter than the other, kept changing colors and flickering on and off.

Mrs Howard said the lights maintained their presence in the sky for up to 15 minutes then disappeared.

The couple, who have lived near the airstrip since 1978, said they were convinced an aircraft was not responsible for the lights.

"With the binoculars it was just a brilliant light, you couldn't see anything else."

Mr Howard said he believed the lights were fairly low but was unable to judge their height or distance.

"It may have been six miles, it may have been 100 miles, I don't know."

Mr Howard, a keen sky watcher, said it was far too early for it to have been a star and dismissed suggestions it may have been a comet or a satellite.

He and Mrs Howard are both strong believers in the notion that there are extra terrestrial

life forms present in the universe.

"I definitely believe they're about, there's too many sightings for there not to be," Mr Howard said.

"If you believe what you hear there's one or two even crashed in America," he said.

"They've been watching over us for many years, watching our progress."

Mrs Howard, while less certain of the form extra terrestrial life may take, also believes in its existence.

In the 1950s when she was living in Market street, she says she, along with several other people, saw another UFO at the back of the former Murray Goulburn factory.

"There's got to be something up there somewhere," she said.

A spokesman for the Victorian UFO society said there had not been many reported UFO sightings in the district recently.

"Most reports are from Wangaratta lately," he said. A spokesman for Air Services Australia could not deny or confirm that an aircraft was flying in the Cohuna vicinity on Wednesday evening.

**? Are You Financial ?**  
**Check Your Address Label**



In about seven minutes I noticed that it had begun to move. Very gradually at first, and still in utter silence. What it then did, and how it performed, I am reluctant to disclose, as I have started writing a book in which it features.'

### Gone Missing?

Report by Elio. Witbank, South Africa, March 1994.

Case N° 105

'In March 1994 I saw a UFO! I went fishing with a friend, Otto, when we saw at a certain distance between Witbank and Middelburg, in a clear sky, an enormous silver craft going vertically up at a great speed and leaving a white trail behind. Poor Otto got such a fright!

Later, when we tried to explain to others what we had seen, we got some strange remarks from those people. But Otto wouldn't stop talking about it, and a couple of weeks after the incident he disappeared and I just never saw him again.'

[Marie van Staden says: "I have not checked if someone by that name was ever reported missing."]

### Whose Face Wore the Smile?

Report by Dave H. Johannesburg, South Africa.

Case N° 106.

'I was staying at a hotel in Joubert Park, on the fourth floor. The time was about 02:00 hours of a Sunday morning, when I was woken up by a light so bright that it shone through the thick curtain. I got up to investigate and on opening the curtain, I saw what was a tiny, man-like creature sitting on the ledge of the balcony. Above it was a saucer-type vehicle which emitted a bright light with a low humming sound.

I put my hand forward and it had a smile-like expression on its face. I got about three feet away from it and it hopped back into the vehicle. In about three seconds it was gone!

The only two persons that knew about this were my wife and Elizabeth Klarer.'

ADDRESS.

All correspondence to-  
GEMINI, P.O. BOX MP 49  
HARARE ZIMBABWE.

UFO

AFRINEWS



## XIth CENTURY UFO REPORT FROM CHINA

John Brent Musgrave

S ometime around the year 1086 the noted Chinese scientist and scholar, Shen Kua, wrote his famous *Mêng Chhi Pi Than* (Dream Pool Essays). These essays contain a wealth of information on astronomy, mathematics, geology and geography, as well as many other sciences and technologies. They are based on notes Shen Kua took as official duties brought him to many parts of China. The *Essays* include references to strange luminescent phenomena observed for many years near the town of Yang-chou. (Yang-chou is located in the present day province of Kiangsu, north east of Shanghai.) From the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> century it was one of China's richest trading cities, and the transfer point for Yangtze river trade onto the Grand Canal. The following account is based on a translation by Dr. Lawrence Lau.

"In the middle of the year Chia-you there was a very big 'pearl' seen in Yang-chou. It was often seen in the daytime. At the beginning, it appeared in the marshes of Tien Ch'ang county. Later it was seen at Lake Pi Shie. And still later, for ten years or more, it was seen at Lake Shin Kai. It was often seen by passers-by as well as local inhabitants. "My friend's study was on Lake Shin Kai. One night, he suddenly saw the 'pearl' close by. At first, it opened its

chamber slightly, and light came out as though a horizontal thread of gold was laid. Soon it suddenly opened up its shell. Its size was like half of a round banquet table, and the white light from the shell was like silver. The 'pearl' was as big as a fist. The light was so brilliant that it could not be looked at directly. Within ten or more *li* (several miles) all the trees and bushes were illuminated as if the sun were rising. From afar one could only see the sky red, as if lit by wild fire. Suddenly, the 'pearl' flew off in the distance. Floating amid the waves of the lake it was dazzling bright like the sun.

"In antiquity, there was the pearl of the bright moon. But this pearl did not resemble the moon. It was burning bright with flame, closely resembling the light of the sun.

"Po Chü-l' once composed a *Bright Pearl Ode*. Po, who often saw the pearl, was a native of Kao Yao. It has not appeared in recent years; where it has gone is not known. The town of Fan Liang was at the place where the pearl passed back and forth. Travellers who passed by there always tied their boats several nights to wait for its appearance, and named the pavilion *Wan Chu* (Pearl Playing or Pearl Appreciation)."

THE UFO ENIGMA

A publication of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis.



## THE EARLY YEARS

(A selection of reports from "The Australian Flying Saucer Magazine" published by the Australian Flying Saucer Bureau in the early 1950's)

Geelong, Victoria - January 3, 1953

Staff of a Geelong newspaper and radio station, including radio announcers and reporters, watched a bright yellow object which appeared over the town at about 10.00 pm. It looked like a very bright star and had "an illuminated halo" surrounding it. It kept disappearing and then re-appearing much brighter than before and at one period seemed to be nearly as large as the Moon to all who observed it.

The object left a phosphorescent glow in the sky and disappeared after heading in a southerly direction at great speed.

Melbourne Weather Bureau officials said that from its estimated height the object seen could not have been a "drifting weather balloon". The spokesman added that "they were only one foot in diameter, anyway". He said that he could give no explanation.

George Town Bay, near Launceston, Tasmania - February 3, 1953

A former navigator in the R.A.F. reported that he saw a saucer over George Town Bay the previous Sunday morning. The man said the object was "not an aircraft as we know it". It was flying at great speed at an altitude of about 8000 feet. It was silvery in colour. His seven year old son who also saw the object described it as "a dish spinning".

Melbourne, Victoria - February 25, 1953

The Victorian Astronomical Society set up a special investigating Committee to probe flying saucer reports. Its Chairman added that significant sightings would be referred to experts in meteorology, aeronautics, physics and other sciences. The Australian Flying Saucer Investigation Committee (to give it its rightful title) consists of 4 members of the Astronomical Society.

Quorn, South Australia - March 6, 1953

Two railwaymen reported that a saucer "whizzed over the township" on March 5 during the late afternoon. It moved at terrific speed, apparently high up. The men said that it was disc-shaped and silver coloured.

These archives were made available to VUFORS by Mr Murray Bott of New Zealand.



Have You Seen A Press Cutting That  
VUFORS May Be Interested In ?  
Please Send It To Us  
We Rely On You, The Membership

✉ ➔ VUFORS



## UFO POTPOURRI

JOHN F. SCHUESSLER, P.O. BOX 58485, HOUSTON, TX 77258-8485  
FAX (713) 488-3121

JANUARY 1996

### FLYING SAUCERS OVER BELGIAN CONGO URANIUM MINES

From: Central Intelligence Agency Report No. 00-W-23602, distributed 16 August 1952, Approved for declassification and release on 6 November 1978. The information was first published in *Die Presse*, Vienna, 29 March 1952. The CIA listed the source as "Information from Foreign Documents or Radio Broadcasts." It is interesting because this is a part of a vast library of similar reports gathered by the CIA during the year the issued the "Robertson Report" on UFOs - the start of a major UFO debunking campaign. The content is as follows:

"Recently, two fiery disks were sighted over the uranium mines located in the southern part of the Belgian Congo in the Elisabethville district, east of the Luapula river which connects the Meru and Bangweolo lakes. The disks glided in elegant curves and changed their position many times, so that from below they sometimes appeared as plates, ovals, and simply lines. Suddenly, both disks hovered in one spot and then took off in a unique zigzag flight to the northeast. A penetrating hissing and buzzing sound was audible to the onlookers below. The whole performance lasted from 10 to 12 minutes."

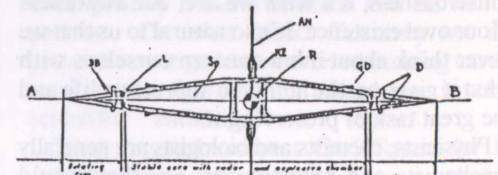
"Commander Pierre of the small Elisabethville airfield immediately set out in pursuit with a fighter plane. On his first approach he came within about 120 meters of one of the disks. According to his estimates, the "saucer" had a diameter of from 12 to 15 meters and was disc-shaped. The inner core remained absolutely still, and a knob coming out from the center and several small openings could plainly be seen. The outer rim was completely veiled in fire and must have had an enormous speed of rotation. The color of the metal was similar to that of aluminum."

"The disks traveled in a precise and light manner, both vertically and horizontally. Changes in elevation from 800 to 1,000 meters could be accomplished in a few seconds; the disks often shot down to within 20 meters of the tree tops. Pierre did not regard it possible that the disk could be manned, since the irregular speed as well as the heat would make it impossible for a person to stay inside the stable core. Pierre had to give up the pursuit after 15 minutes since both disks, with a loud whistling sound which he heard despite the noise from his own plane, disappeared in a straight line toward Lake Tanganyika. He estimated their speed at about 1,500 kilometers per hour."

"Pierre is regarded as a dependable officer and a zealous flyer. He gave a detailed report to his

superiors which, strangely enough, in many respects agreed with various results of research."

"The sketch below shows the construction of the 'flying saucers.' The captions are, in part, purely conjecture, based on reports by pilots who pursued the disks; in part, they were learned from secret research institutions. The central core contains the explosive (SP) and the installations for radar steerage (R). It has catapult knobs (KZ) and antennae (AN) as well as counter-pressure housing (GD). Around this core, a rim rotates which has jets (D) on its upper and lower side, plus fuel chambers (DB). The roller bearing is shown by the letter (L). The launching occurs at a sharp angle in the manner of a discus throw; the revolutions per minute of the rim probably amount to 22,000. The jets on the bottom of the rim serve to propel the disk vertically upwards; lateral steerage results from switching on and off various jet groups."



### COMMENTS/SPECULATIONS:

- When issued by the CIA, this report went to the Department of State, U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, and the Atomic Energy Commission. Therefore, each of the above agencies should have archives containing this and other UFO reports.
- The two disks maneuvered in such a way that the observers on the ground viewed them from all angles.
- Ground observers watched the pair of disks for 10 to 12 minutes. This means they were not natural phenomena such as bolides, lightning, etc.
- A pilot in a fighter plane had time to get in the plane, take-off and chase the disks for 15 minutes over great distances.
- Large changes in elevation occurred very quickly - in a few seconds. Could not have been an aircraft.
- The pilot could hear the noise of the disks over the noise of his aircraft engine.
- The sketch provided, interestingly, came from information from pilots and from materials from unnamed secret research installations.
- The technology displayed in this report is far beyond our aerospace technology back in the year 1952.



# How far is.... *Far Out?*

© Ted Skewes

The Abduction Phenomenon raises some very interesting questions. One of the contentious issues is the altered state of consciousness of the subject (i.e. the person involved) during and indeed subsequent to the experience. Rather than get involved with the events and the effects, let's look at the framework of fact and theory in which all the discussion takes place...what is consciousness?

Funnily enough there is no simple definition, it means different things to different people and is something science has great difficulty explaining. The problem is that we all have consciousness, it's what we *are*, our awareness of our own existence. It's so natural to us that we never think about it but concern ourselves with what it gives us, the ability to appreciate life and the great task of preserving it.

Physicists, chemists and biologists are generally mechanists and reductionists, i.e. they would like to describe all processes as interactions of matter, and in order to do so will try to reduce complex systems to simple ones for easier examination. The assumption behind this thinking is that the workings of a complex system *can* be deduced from the characteristics of a simpler, similar system. Consciousness is thus deduced to consist of electro-chemical processes in the brain. Levels and states of consciousness are then linked to brain functionality and chemical effects, the existence (coming into being) of consciousness to evolution, and the behavior of living sentient beings (including humans) to stimuli responses. These theories locate (and limit) consciousness and the mind within the brain.

Thankfully there are other schools of thought. Rene Descartes, 17th century, proposed that 'mind' was an ethereal material substance, subtler than ordinary matter, which could exert forces on matter (much like a magnet induces a current in a copper wire, although Descartes would not

have known about this). This concept has been dubbed 'the ghost in the machine' and is known as 'dualism'. Although it sits well with religion and philosophy it upsets the scientists because it appears impossible to test for this invisible 'mind-stuff'. Unfortunately, the scientific fields that investigate mind and consciousness are labeled "paranormal" and immediately relegated to the 'not to be taken too seriously' category. There are however scientific experiments that can be done with telepathy, animal senses, and phantom limbs etc. that have the potential to show that the mind may well extend beyond the body in a hitherto unknown way.

The word consciousness can also be used in the context of belief systems or paradigms, a person is of a particular 'consciousness' when their patterns of thinking and logic operate within certain philosophical, scientific or religious 'guidelines'. Here we have another conundrum. A person's identity, or sense of self, is independent of their physical body. You can literally forget who you are or radically change personality in an instant and it does not take physical trauma to do it (hypnosis being a good example). It seems to be more a question of what you *believe*, or *remember*, or believe you remember.

What is consciousness? It seems that no-one knows, and in trying to find out we raise more questions, what is identity, mind, intelligence, memory, belief, understanding, personality and emotion? These are good questions, and a good question deserves a good answer. It's out there somewhere.

• • •

Further reading:

The Big Questions by Paul Davies,  
Seven Experiments That Could Change  
the World, by Rupert Sheldrake

Comments are welcome;

email: [vufors@ozemail.com.au](mailto:vufors@ozemail.com.au)

www: [www.ozemail.com.au/~vufors](http://www.ozemail.com.au/~vufors)

## Richard Hall's

# REALITY CHECK

I will title this column "The Trouble with Ufology." Actually, there are so many problems with ufology that volumes could be written about it, but one of the key, central problems is that everyone thinks he or she has *The Answer*. Theorising, pontificating, and posturing have taken precedence over careful empirical study with thorough peer review and letting the evidence lead where it may. The result has been nothing short of disastrous.

People present themselves as "scientific" (ie, allegedly objective) students of what is going on, but in practice they start out with all kinds of assumptions and presumptions and try to force-fit the data to what they would like to believe. Furthermore, very few of them have any legitimate educational or experiential credentials that would justify their claims or credibility.

The basic sin committed by "Defenders of Science" like the spokespersons for the Committee on Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal (CSICOP), whom I perceive as self-interested debunkers rather than legitimate "skeptics" (an honourable term in the history of philosophy), is that they *presume* all sorts of things and don't bother to study facts because their minds are already made up.

Give me one intellectually honest CSICOP representative (Klass and Schaeffer have already disqualified themselves), and I would be willing and eager to go to the mat with them in any fairly adjudicated forum that discussed UFO case studies and UFO history. I would thoroughly enjoy educating CSICOP members - presumably including honest skeptics - about how miserably they have been misled and misinformed by Klass and Schaeffer.

Carl Sagan, whose pontifications about the UFO subject have - from my personal knowledge - included a studious avoidance of factual, empirical studies and a disturbing tendency to character assassination, is a particularly

bothersome "authority figure" whose influence far outstrips his right to credibility.

While an officer of NICAP in the 1960s, I personally tried to persuade Sagan to pay attention to UFO occupant reports, and he (theoretically) agreed to participate in a scientific panel study of these reports. We sent him all kinds of case histories; he contributed nothing.

Later, after the October, 1973, Pascagoula, Mississippi, abduction case, I attended a lecture by Sagan at the Goddard Space Flight Centre in Maryland. He apparently thought that he was addressing solely an audience of skeptical scientists, and he proceeded to ridicule and make jokes about the traumatic experience undergone by Charles Hickson and his fishing partner. On what basis? Certainly not any personal investigation, or even recounting careful investigation by others. Instead, he invoked scientific "authority."

Since I greatly respect Carl Sagan for his contributions to environmental science and space research, I regret having to say these things. But his previous PBS NOVA program about UFOs, many years ago, grossly misrepresented the Betty and Barney Hill abduction case of 1961, showing a flagrant disregard for even the most elementary factual reporting. His most recent trashing of abduction reports and, by implication, abductees, again on NOVA, is inexcusable. His comments suggest that he thinks people have some will to believe in outside (extraterrestrial) intervention.

I will resist trying to analyse what his psychological hang-ups might be, but he has established a consistent record of *talking* objectively about UFOs and claiming to be an honest skeptic, while in practice not dirtying his hands with any direct investigation. He was offered an opportunity by Budd Hopkins to participate in an investigation of a newly surfacing abductee in his own backyard at Cornell, and to



observe for himself how the case unfolded. Despite saying previously that he was willing to do this in theory, when it actually came to pass he backed out and declined to personally study a real-time case.

If I am wrong in any particular about what I am reporting here, I would welcome a give-and-take with Carl Sagan. But somehow I feel that he is not prepared to interact or debate with someone who knows facts, and can cite chapter and verse. Instead, he invokes "scientific authority."

To his credit, in the 1968 scientific symposium on UFOs held by the Congressional House Committee on Science and Astronautics, Sagan stated that there was nothing in physical theory that would prevent extraterrestrial visits; it was just that he didn't see any evidence that it was actually happening. Well, one man's "evidence" is another man's "wishful thinking."

All these are debatable issues, worthy of

thoughtful discussion in scientific forums. But that is not what Sagan advocates. Instead, he avoids confronting detailed, factual cases and substitutes a viewpoint that *appears* to be open-minded, but actually suggests that only one interpretation is possible: the idea of space visitors is wishful thinking and abductees are somehow hallucinating or deluded.

He is right only in one respect: the "hallucination" or "delusion" is well worth scientific study, since there is no precedent for the scope and magnitude of the reported phenomenon. At least, that is what he appears to be saying. Despite his vast communication skills that have rightly earned him a special place in society, he seems to speak ambiguously about UFOs. One could justifiably say that he speaks with a forked tongue.

*Richard Hall's 'Reality Check' is a regular feature in UFO Magazine.*

Published with kind permission of the Editor of UFO Magazine,  
P.O. Box 1053 Sunland, California 91041  
Six editions US \$32.00 International Money Order or US bank



## The UFO Enigma

UFO FILMED WHILE FLYING PAST THE SPACE SHUTTLE

The shuttle Columbia landed yesterday morning following a space flight marred by bad luck. NASA kept the shuttle in orbit an extra day because of bad weather at the field at Cape Canaveral. The shuttle attempted to deploy a \$442 million U.S./Italian satellite at the end of a 12-mile tether in order to generate in-flight electricity from Earth's magnetic field. But the experiment flopped when the tether broke on February 25.

The night of February 25, CNN had its camera trained on the broken end of the tether while the anchorman chatted with the Italian scientist who created it. At precisely 7.04 p.m. Pacific time (11.04 Eastern time), a mysterious object darted into the camera's field of view, moving from the upper right corner to the center of the screen. One UFO buff had his VCR running at the time and captured two minutes of video. That's 3,600 frames showing the UFO. The clearest view of the UFO takes place during the 7.05 p.m. minute. Using screen freeze and blowup features, our UFO buff has found an image of a too-shaped light yellow UFO, quite similar to the object videotaped in Mexico City in 1994. He is now in the process of digitizing the image and will soon put it on the internet.

UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, Inc., P.O. Box 31544, St. Louis, Missouri 63131.  
Please include self-addressed, stamped envelope for returned materials.

# SAMARIA UFO REPORT

Copyright ©

James W.R. OWEN.

Mary-Lou OWEN.

## INITIAL CONTACT:

On the evening of Saturday the 1st day of June, 1996, I received a telephone call from Mr Paul NORMAN, the Vice President and Sightings Investigations Officer of the Victorian U.F.O. Research Society. Mr NORMAN informed me about a reported sighting in the Swanpool area by a Mr L C. After a conversation with Mr NORMAN, I made contact with Mr L C via the telephone. His story began as the Myrrhee sightings but with one big difference, L heard sound. Over the telephone I then commenced to complete a V.U.F.O.R.S sighting form in as much detail that was possible.

I found when discussing this reported sighting that it had the similarities of Myrrhee reports and upon mapping the locations, the distance between the sightings was not that great, only a matter of 10 to 15 kilometres as the crow flies. On this occasion the object was in the vicinity of a large body of water known as Lake Nillahcootie. L believed that it would be no further than two kilometres from the lake. Our initial conversation was productive and all details were recorded by me. I listened to his story and arranged to see him on the Tuesday upon our return from Melbourne.

On Tuesday the 4th of June, 1996 at around 1300 hours, both my wife and I attended at a farm situated at Lima East. It was at this address that we first met with L C and his wife C. The meeting was friendly and it became quiet obvious that these witnesses had an interest in the U.F.O phenomenon. We found the family to be open and friendly and an instant trust emerged between the four (4) of us. Our initial conversations ranged from

farming to the sighting. It was interesting to find out that these witnesses along with others had encounters prior to the one reported to the V.U.F.O.R.S. hotline. As it was, we spent in excess of two (2) hours with L and C. On this occasion we obtained reports from L and C and at the same time left Sighting Reports to be completed by the other witnesses.

As reported by L C the sighting is as follows:

*Between 0230 hours and 0300 hours on the morning of Saturday the 25th of May, 1996, I was woken by a humming sound. I believe that it was this sound that woke me, but as it did, I realised that the dogs, cattle, sheep and more importantly the birds were making a lot of noise. Other neighbours also heard the animals around the same time. It was then that I got up and went to the bedroom window looking out in the direction of Lightning Ridge being in a south easterly direction. My attention was drawn to a very bright light with unbelievable colours. This object was above Lightning Ridge. I estimate that it was about 20 degrees above the horizon. I describe the object as circular with the colours of red, blue, orange, yellow, white and aqua green. It also appeared to have a half egg shape under the object that was bluish white and the colours were transparent. All the colours seemed to merge as if in layers. The object then travelled slowly along the contours of the hills for approximately 3 kilometres in a northerly direction. The object then rose to a height of about 1000 feet at an angle of about 45 degrees in a southerly direction and then returned at approximately 45 degrees to its original position. When it rose to a 1000 feet I estimate it to be at 60 degrees above the horizon. The size was estimated at about a ten(10) cent piece at arms*



## Samaria UFO Report

*length or about 4 times the size of a normal star on the horizon. I never observed the object disappear as I returned to bed. Further to this I would estimate the actual size of the object at about 30 metres across. At the time of the sighting the weather was fine, dry, cold with no wind or moon. The sky was clear of any fog or clouds.*

At the completion of the report, I then discussed the sighting with L and at the same time clearing up any questions as I may have had. L informed me that he had watched the object for about five (5) minutes and believed that the sound had been from it. I asked if the sound was coming from the object whilst he was observing it and I was informed that it was not. I then inquired if it was his belief that the object had passed directly over his house and if that may have been the reason for hearing the humming sound. Leigh then stated that he had not thought of this possibility and believed that it may be so. I still thought it prudent to inquire as to him being woken by the sound of the humming or the animals. We discussed this in detail and after putting the possibility of the animals waking him first he continually stated that it may have been so, but he still believes that the humming was the first sound that he had heard. I then inquired what type of bird was making the sounds and was informed that it was magpies. This bird very rarely makes any sound during the dark hours. I then put it to L as to why he never roused his wife to view this object. He was unable to give a reason and continually wished that he had done so. Our discussions continued about the animals and the birds behaving as they did. L informed me that the animals rarely behaved in this manner and that he had never heard the birds behaving in this way especially at that time of the morning. It is my understanding that during the dark hours birds do not behave as described unless

disturbed by something out of the ordinary or by predators. From our discussion it appears that the birds and animals were not localised but over quiet a large area and this has been authenticated by other farmers in the area. L stated that he was unable to hear any other noises due to the birds and animals.

As per the sighting report there was no electrical interference and the witness never observed any aircraft in the area. There was no physical injury or irritation from this encounter. It also appears that at no stage did this object travel at any great speed. L has checked the area at the same times and at other times during the evening and has observed nothing similar.

## INVESTIGATIONS:

Whilst at the premises of L and C, I examined the area for any machinery that may have caused the humming sound. I located none. I observed power lines going to the house from a pole. A transformer and other equipment were attached to the pole that was approximately 75 metres on the north eastern side of the house. Whilst at this address I heard no humming or other sounds emitting from the pole and equipment. I inquired with the neighbours as to if any humming comes from the electricity pole. I was informed that the transformer does hum regularly. Leigh stated that he has heard the humming from the transformer and that he honestly believes that the humming he heard during the sighting was not the same sound as from the transformer. Due to the interest and the local knowledge that L possesses, I asked if he would contact the locals and inquire about this sighting. He agreed to do this. I have found his eagerness and co-operativeness a great help in this and the following encounters that the another family have reported.

## Samaria UFO Report

On Monday the 24th of June, 1996, in the evening, both my wife and I attended at the farm to further discuss circumstances on this and the other sighting. I again inquired what type of birds were making the noise and I was informed that they were both Magpies and Kookaburras. L stated that he had forgotten to inform us that the Kookaburras were laughing. I again checked the power pole and inquired further about the humming. L informed me again that it was not the same humming that comes from the power pole and that it was more of a whirring hum.

My wife had also made inquiries in relation to planets or stars that would be in the area at the same time as L had observed this object. This was done via the Planetarium. We were informed that Saturn would be above the horizon in the east and that this would be the only planet. The only star in the area is "Achernar" that is a bright star with a magnitude of 0.5. This star would be Twenty (20) degrees above the horizon. This was put to L who stated that he saw this star and it was nowhere near the brightness or size of this object.

Checks with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in relation to the magpies and kookaburras reveals that these birds rarely behave as has been reported at that time of the morning. This check was done via the local department at Wangaratta.

## CONCLUSIONS:

Through my conversations with L, I ascertained that he is ex Army and is on a T.P.I. pension. He has seen service in Vietnam and in my opinion he appears to be a competent witness. I have no doubt that he and his family are honest people. I have found that they are interested in this subject and appear to be eager to help in our

investigations. The similarities to the last Myrrhee sightings are astounding. The terrain is very similar with the exception of a large lake in the Samaria area. The object observed at Myrrhee was in the direction of the Samaria sighting (MYRRHEE REPORT.) The colours were identical and the behaviour of the object similar. It appears that the object observed from Myrrhee was some distance away from the witnesses. The object observed on the 25th of May 96 was observed over a ridge of hills and in the approximate direction of Myrrhee. I since had reason to contact the Myrrhee witness, D C who stated that she was attempting to contact us to inform us that on the evening of the 25th of May, 1996, she along with her sister and others observed the same object as they had been watching on the previous reports. I asked if this object may have been in the direction of the Swanpool area. D replied that it was in that direction. Even though this object was observed at different times it was seen on the same day. The objects description was the same as L's.

On the morning that L observed this object no other person has come forward to substantiate L's claim. On this sighting we have no other independent witnesses. I believe the reported sighting on the evening of the same day does substantiate this report to some degree. The behaviour of the object is not similar to any man made craft and relying on L's observations, he is of the opinion that it was not a natural phenomenon and that to travel as it did would require intelligent control. With the report of the animals and birds behaving as they did this seems to prove that something out of the ordinary may have disturbed them. This behaviour has been substantiated by L's neighbours who have stated that they had heard the animals and birds behaving as L has stated. They do not wish to become involved. Our investigations have failed to provide any



## Samaria UFO Report

feasible explanation as to the object that was both seen and heard by L and as such we are unable to refute his claim. The Bureau of Meteorology have previously stated that inversion layers in this type of terrain is extremely rare.

I have no doubt that Leigh has seen something out of the ordinary and to the best of his ability, he is unable to give an explanation as to what this object may have been. In this case I request that the sighting be classed as unexplainable.

James W.R. OWEN.  
Mary-Lou OWEN.

## Wonnangatta Sighting

Copyright ©  
Dan Haylock

On the evening of Saturday 8th of June a four wheel drive club of fifty adults and twenty to thirty children made an overnight stop at the valley known as the Wonnangatta station, which is now national park and is an extremely remote place surrounded by mountains. It lies halfway between Licola North of Heyfield, and Dargo forty miles or more north west of Bairnsdale. Nobody lives in that area permanently.

At 6.05 pm it was dark and the Marquee was up and barbecues were cooking the evening meal.

Suddenly all conversation stopped as an orange light appeared over the Western mountain rim. It moved on an Easterly course and after arriving at an elevation of sixty degrees, it stopped.

Shortly after, two more lights appeared on the Western rim, where they paused. Then the group moved on a straight course, stopping now and then. There was no synchronicity between the two lights and the leading light.

but altogether six stops would have been made. The lights were steady and unvarying in intensity, and three times as bright as any star visible in the background. When the leading light arrived near the Eastern rim, it paused and one of the two trailing lights, which had been side by side all the way across, moved forward to take up a position alongside the leading light. When this was done the three moved to the East and were soon out of sight.

Mr R was adamant that these weren't balloons. They were steady and made straight but slow progress across the sky. Because of the mountains all around visibility was restricted to about 120 degrees. If these were balloons released somewhere else, they would have to be released many miles away in daylight. To be released locally, they would have to be taken in by four wheel drive and without any guarantee of an audience to see them.

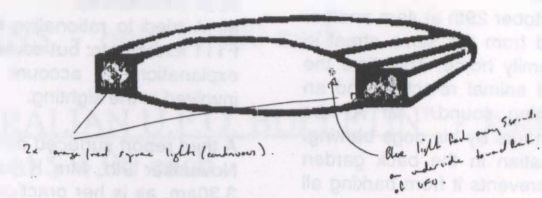
The duration of the sighting was about fifteen minutes.

Dan HAYLOCK.

# Australian Sighting Reports

## Local Sightings

Examples of brief reports received during the past four months.

Greensborough, Vic. 7 <sup>th</sup> May 18:20 hrs.	Two objects looked round at a distance and triangle shape as it flew slowly overhead. High pitched humming sound. Glowing white. No distortion around edges. About one third the size of the moon. One object shot up and disappeared from view in seconds. Second object proceeded slowly at about the speed of on aeroplane.
South of Cohuna 17:57 to 18:06 hrs.	Very bright light, no sound, joined by second light. White light dimmed leaving orange coloured rim. Second witness observed one of the lights through trees. Third witness observed the other light through trees in opposite direction. Distance pinpointed to be no more than one km. away. Size of object about the size of a light aircraft. There was no sound. Eight other witnesses observed lights at various distances and from different angles. Disappeared suddenly.
Moyston, Vic. 24 <sup>th</sup> May 19:15 hrs.	Wedge shaped object, size of DC-3 with orange light at front and rear end with a blue light behind the front orange light on structure. Overall structure was black. Estimated speed was 60 to 80 kph. See sketch.
	
Parkville, Vic. 29 <sup>th</sup> May 20:10 hrs.	A bright orange light approached two witnesses from the South West, made a ninety degree turn then flew South East where it gradually faded.
Sandringham 30 <sup>th</sup> May 22:15 hrs	A large orange-red object travelling North to South at a fast speed. Two observers said they thought it was manmade.
Croydon, Vic. 31 <sup>st</sup> May 21:45 hrs	An orange light travelling five times the speed of an aeroplane from North East to South East near Dandenong Ranges.
North Ringwood: 11 <sup>th</sup> June 20:30 hrs.	A bright red oval shaped object flew from the South West over the Dandenongs. It was reported to be a quarter of the size of the moon and flying too low for a large aircraft. There was no sound heard. The object came across horizontally then vertically.
Narre Warren, Berwick and South - Eastern suburbs:	At this stage, written and oral reports are being investigated including photo analysis.



## TASMANIAN UFO REPORT - 1996

TUFOIC, P.O. Box 174, South Hobart, Tasmania, 7004, AUSTRALIA  
**PUZZLING OBJECTS OVER HOBART SUBURB**

Three cases of unidentified lights were reported to the Centre in late October early November all from the same Hobart Suburban area or Warrane/Bellerive. Rapid movement was a feature in each case with two of the reports seemingly at low level in the early hours of the morning.

The L family reported that they were looking out of one of their bedroom windows about 8.40pm on the evening of October 27th. They commented on a bright silvery/white light at about a 40 degree elevation on the Northern sky, the large star sized light did not appear to be moving so little notice of it was taken over the next 10 minutes. However Mrs L on glancing out through the window called the others when she saw that the light had started to move from its original position over Flagstaff Hill.

The family hardly had time to follow the light as it commenced a rapid level track to the south, it had reached a position in the north eastern sky when to everyone's surprise it just shot up and was gone in a second.

Two days later on October 29th at 4am another sighting was reported from the same street in Warrane as the L family home. This time the encountered involved animal re-action and an ear piercing whooshing sound. Mr A was awoken in the early hours by his dogs barking. He locks up his Alsatian in the back garden shed every night, it prevents it from barking all night and keeping everyone awake. He says that the dog has a very deep bark if anyone intrudes on their block, otherwise it is just a few sharp barks if someone is just passing in the street. The dog was giving a deep bark and running against the door of the shed as if to get out. Mr A got up, went through the house and looked out the washhouse window into the back yard. He was surprised to see the yard, and neighbour's house lit up by an orange flickering light, it was as if it was daylight. The yard is usually pretty dark but he was able to read the number plate on the car in the back yard.

At this point in the series of events Mr A's wife says she woke up with an eerie feeling, as if someone was watching her. She found that the room was lit up by an orange light and she could hear an ear piercing whooshing noise from outside. She called out for her husband and at once he returned to the bedroom. A decided to see just what was going on outside, putting on his dressing gown he headed for the front door. A went out onto his front porch,

almost at the same instant he saw a streak of orange light shoot off across the sky seemingly from above his house. The streak lit up the clouds as it moved away to the north west in a matter of seconds. The noise ceased, the dogs stopped barking and all was silent again.

A moved down onto his front lawn and at the same time a motorist proceeded up the street, he pulled up and queried if A had seen a stray dog he was looking for, A replied that he had not but in turn asked if the motorist had seen anything strange. The motorist said he had seen an orange light in the sky over A's house. The motorist then drove off leaving a rather startled A and his wife. A then noticed that a young man had come out from one of the flats across the street, the young man just looked about and went back inside the flats.



The Centre contacted Police and Civil Aviation but without success, an article was run in the local Suburban News but no further information was forthcoming about the event. Mr A did not know who the motorist was, whilst the young man left the flats before investigations had been commenced.

Mr A tried to rationalise the event as a flare, F111 aircraft etc; but could not come up with an explanation to account for all the events involved in the sighting.

A third report surfaced during the early hours of November 9th, Mrs K was up about 2.30 to 3.30am, as is her practice she looked out over the bay before retiring to bed. She was puzzled to observe a large round red light above one of the houses 800m away across Kangaroo Bay. The bright light seemed to have lighter patches on the body of the light, giving the impression of differing light intensity. The light was stationary and virtually just above the roof line of a house, an actual estimate of the lights size was about 2 to 3m across. In an instant the light changed position, moving to a new location over a house some 150m to the right of its original location. The light now did not look as bright, however, it only remained in its new location for 30 seconds before instantly reappearing at the original position. The light now back to its initial brilliance was visible for a further 30 seconds before it just went out. The Centre again contacted authorities for possible explanations such as emergency services etc; but no ready explanation was forthcoming. Mrs K even contacted her friend who lives in the area the light was noted but again drew a blank.

## SOCIETY NEWS

The VUFORS Sightings Hotline is NOW AVAILABLE.

 (03) 9506 7080 

Please report your sightings to this number.

Note: This is NOT a 0055 or 1900 service. Your call is charged standard rates.

\*\*\* ITEMS FOR SALE \*\*\*

AT THE SEPTEMBER 2nd DISCUSSION EVENING

\* VUFORS LAPEL BADGES - only \$ 5.00 each.

\* VUFORS PENS - only \$ 1.00 each.

\* "THE AUSTRALIAN U.F.O. BULLETIN" - back issues available at \$ 4.00 each.



### Elections

At our Annual General Meeting to be held on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, a new Committee will either be declared or elected.

All nominations must be submitted on a clean sheet of paper; must also be signed by a nominator, seconder, who together with the nominee, must be financial members of this Society. All nominations are required to be in the hands of the Secretary **NO LATER** than the 1<sup>st</sup> of November, 1996.





## MEMBER

International Committee for U.F.O. Research

P.O. Box 43, Moorabbin, Vic. 3189, Australia

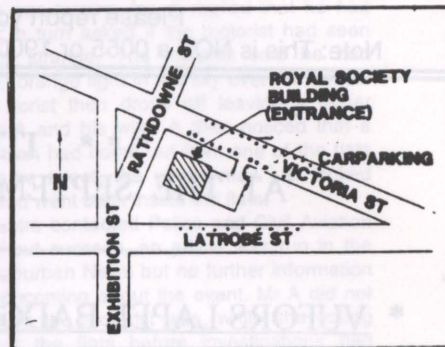
## DISCUSSION NIGHT

### For Your Diary

MARCH	4 <sup>th</sup> , 1996	DISCUSSION
JUNE	3 <sup>rd</sup> , 1996	"
SEPTEMBER	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 1996	"
DECEMBER	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 1996	A.G.M

TIME 8.00 p.m.  
WHERE The Royal Society of Victoria  
Victoria Street, Melbourne  
(SEE MAP)

ENTRY	NON-MEMBER	\$5.00
FEE	ASSOCIATE MEMBER	\$2.00
	FULL MEMBER	FREE ENTRY



## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

V.U.F.O.R.S.

<b>FULL MEMBERSHIP:</b>	<b>\$20</b>	- Magazine - Free Meeting Entry - Free Supper
<b>ASSOCIATE MEMBER:</b>	<b>\$15</b>	- Magazine Only
<b>OVERSEAS:</b>	<b>\$US20</b>	- Magazine Only
<b>NON MEMBER:</b>	<b>\$5</b>	- Meeting Entry Only

# SOCIETY HISTORY

## 1957

At this point perhaps it may be opportune to present a brief history of the Victorian U.F.O. Research Society.

The earliest U.F.O. group to form in Australia was the "Australian Flying Saucer Bureau" under the direction of Edgar Jarrold and Andrew Tomas, in the early 1950s. At the same time, Fred Stone inaugurated the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" in Adelaide. After approximately two years the Bureau closed down and was regarded as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" under Andrew Tomas. This shortly broke from Adelaide and became the "Australian U.F.O. Investigation Centre" with Dr. Clifford at its head until 1958, when the Presidency passed to Dr. Lindtner.

The "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society (Victorian Branch)" was formed on the 17th February, 1957 as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" and later that year was re-organised as the "Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society" with Mr. Peter E. Norris L.L.B. as President. In 1968 the name was again altered – this time to the "Victorian U.F.O. Research Society".

During this time, the Society has published various papers and is probably best known for its publication Australian Flying Saucer Review, curtailed in 1972 due to high costs and subsequently superseded by the Australian U.F.O. Bulletin and at one stage sponsored and produced a quarter-hour program on a Melbourne radio station under the heading of "The Truth Behind Flying Saucers".

In 1978, following the resignation of Mr. Peter Norris the current executive, Mrs. Judith Magee, Messrs. Paul Norman and Clive Yates, was placed in control, ensuring the continuing prosperity of V.U.F.O.R.S. The Society has held a dispassionate attitude on U.F.O.s, claiming it is a scientific problem deserving closer attention. It has also met regularly in general meetings and discussion nights and maintained the largest U.F.O. library in the southern hemisphere. Unfortunately, the loss of books, probably due to the high cost of postage has forced V.U.F.O.R.S. to discontinue this service to members.

Membership of this Society – which maintains the largest membership of any U.F.O. organisation in the Southern Hemisphere – is open to all who are genuinely interested in the subject.



# THE AUSTRALIAN U.F.O. BULLETIN

Print Post Approved  
PP338968/0023



11/9-96  
POSTAGE  
PAID  
MOORABBIN  
VICTORIA  
AUSTRALIA

"  
FL  
"  
A.F.U.  
PO BOX 11027  
S-60011  
NORRKOPING SWEDEN

IF UNDELIVERABLE RETURN TO :

THE VICTORIAN U.F.O. RESEARCH SOCIETY

PO BOX 43,  
MOORABBIN, VIC., 3189  
AUSTRALIA